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Special Provision for Adjusting Frames and Grates

July 27, 2001

This special provision was developed by the Bureau of Materials and Physical Research and the Illinois Highway Development Council to allow the use of plastic and structural steel adjusting rings. It has been revised to add recycled rubber adjusting rings. It should be inserted into all contracts involving the construction, adjustment and reconstruction of frames and grates of drainage and utility structures.

The districts should include the BDE Check Sheet marked with the applicable special provisions for the November 9, 2001 and subsequent lettings. The Project Development and Implementation Section will include the paper copy in the contract.

This special provision will be transferred through the E-mail System to the district offices on July 27, 2001.

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ADJUSTING FRAMES AND GRATES (BDE)

Effective: August 1, 2001
Revised: November 1, 2001

Add the following to Article 602.02 of the Standard Specifications:

"(k) High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) Plastic …….. Note 2
(l) Recycled Rubber…….. Note 3

Note 2. HDPE plastic adjusting rings may be used to adjust the frames and grates of drainage and utility structures up to a maximum of 75 mm (3 in.). They shall be installed and sealed underneath the frames according to the manufacturer's specifications.

HDPE plastic adjusting rings shall be manufactured from Class B HDPE plastic, as identified in ASTM D 1248, using the injection molding process. They shall be designed and tested to meet or exceed an HS25 wheel load according to the AASHTO Standard Specifications for Highway Bridges and shall be stabilized against the effects of ultra violet light.

Recycled material may be used. If recycled material is used, only polyethylene and less than two percent polypropylene will be allowed in the reclaim process. All feed stock shall be tested by the manufacturer on a procurement/production batch basis to verify the following property values:

Physical Property	Test Standard	Value
Melt Flow Index	ASTM D 1238	0.30 to 30.0 g/10 min (0.01 to 1.06 oz/10 min)
Specific Gravity	ASTM D 792	0.84 to 0.98
Tensile Strength, Yield	ASTM D 638	13,800 kPa (2000 psi) minimum

HDPE plastic adjusting rings shall have no void areas, cracks, or tears, and have no effects due to exposure to ultraviolet light. Ripples or sags are limited to less than ten percent of the surface. The actual diameter or length shall not vary more than 3 mm (0.125 in.) from the specified diameter or length. Variations in height are limited to ± 1.6 mm (0.063 in.) for parts up to 50 mm (2 in.) or ± 3 mm (0.125 in.) for parts from 50 mm (2 in.) to 75 mm (3 in.). Variations shall not exceed 6 mm (0.25 in.) from flat (dish, bow or convoluting edge) or 3 mm (0.125 in.) for bulges or dips in the surface.

Note 3. Riser rings fabricated from recycled rubber may be used to adjust the frames and grates of drainage and utility structures up to a maximum of 50 mm (2 in.). They shall be installed and sealed underneath the frames according to the manufacturer's specifications.

Recycled rubber products shall consist of no less than 80 percent by weight recycled rubber. The riser shall meet or exceed the following when maintained at 23 ± 2°C (73 ± 3°F) for at least 24 hours prior to and during testing.

Physical Property	Test Standard	Value
Density	ASTM C 642-90	1.10 ± 0.034 g/cu cm (68.63 ± 2.11 lb/cu ft)
Durometer Hardness	ASTM D 2240-97 Shore A	72 ± 6[1]
Compression Deformation under 1000 kPa (145 psi)	ASTM D 575 –Test Method B Test of Specified Force	9 ± 4 %
Compression Set	ASTM D 395 – Illinois Modified Test Method B Compression Set under Constant Deflection in Air	5 ± 3 %[2]
Weathering (70 hrs at 70 °C (158 °F)) Hardness retained	ASTM D 573	98 %, minimum
Freeze/thaw when exposed to deicing chemicals	ASTM C 672-91	3 % loss, maximum

[1]Average of three tests over a 28 mm (1.12 in.) diameter sample.
[2] Samples compressed to 75 percent of initial height.

Recycled rubber adjusting rings shall have no void areas, cracks, or tears, and have no effects due to exposure to ultraviolet light. The actual diameter or length shall not vary more than 3 mm (0.125 in.) from the specified diameter or length. Variations in height are limited to ± 1.6 mm (0.063 in.) for parts up to 50 mm (2 in.)."

Revise Article 603.08 of the Standard Specifications to read:

"**603.08 Adjusting Rings.** As an option to Articles 603.03 through 603.07, the adjustment of frames and grates may be accomplished through the use of adjusting rings that fit on top of the frame. These adjusting rings shall be fabricated as a one-piece assembly from gray iron, ductile iron or structural steel. They shall provide a structural capacity equal to or greater than the existing frame and shall not affect the opening size or surface appearance. The rings shall have a device for positively positioning and fastening the ring to the existing frame to prevent movement under traffic."

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